

Malden Historic District
(4402 Malden Drive)
Malden
Kanawha County
West Virginia

HABS No. WV-210-16

HABS
WVA,
20-MALD,
17-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Architectural and Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20243

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MALDEN HISTORIC DISTRICT, 4402 Malden Drive

HABS No. WV-210-16

Location: 4402 Malden Drive, Malden, Kanawha County, West Virginia
(Within the boundaries of the Malden Historic District)

Present Owners
and Occupants: John W. Crandall and R. M. Douglas

Present Use: Dwelling

Significance: The massing and details of this house, built after 1882, are derived from the earlier Victorian Italianate style. The front porch exhibits the most meticulously cared-for decorative wooden elements remaining in Malden. The house makes a major contribution to the character of the historic district.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Certainly after 1882, probably before 1890.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and subsequent owners:

The property on which the present house is located was originally a part of the David Ruffner addition. On April 27, 1882, then owner, Mary A. Walker, conveyed Lot A (the present property) to David W. Snyder for \$250.00, as recorded at the Kanawha County Courthouse in Deed Book 37 at page 371. David Snyder died in 1907 and devised the property and house to Mona F. Snyder and Lena O. Snyder. Mona Snyder died intestate in 1951, devising the property and house to O. M. Crandall, John Worth Crandall and Richard M. Crandall. O. M. Crandall died on July 27, 1965, leaving John and Richard as sole heirs. In 1979 John W. Crandall and R. M. Douglas were joint owners.

4. Alterations and additions:

The house is structurally intact. The once wooden exterior has been replaced by white aluminum siding, and the windows have been covered with aluminum storm windows. There was at one time an iron fence that enclosed the property. However, it has been replaced by a chain-link fence. The roof has been replaced over the years, and a screened-in back porch has been added to the original structure.

B. Historical Context:

This property, as were many others in the area, was originally part of the David Ruffner addition. Ruffner was a well-known salt and land baron of the Kanawha Valley during the early 1800s.

The David Snyder family bought the lot in 1882, and the lot and present house have remained in the family.

Prepared by Donna Sue White
Historian
Historic American Buildings Survey Team
June 1979

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This irregularly-shaped two story hip-roofed frame house, now clad in aluminum siding imitating clapboards, reflects the Italianate style, although it was not built until after 1882. It is particularly noteworthy for the ornamentation of its front porch, consisting of turned posts, brackets, pendants, and spandrel braces.
2. Condition of fabric: The condition of the structure cannot be seen, as it is covered by aluminum siding. The building is well maintained.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: This house is approximately 34'-8" in width and 49'-10" in depth.

The plan of the building is irregular, approximating a T-shape, the arms of which are both broad and short in their projection. To the east of this two story main block, a one-story addition occurs, the north half of which is a screened porch. On the north half of the west front, a one-story unscreened porch shelters the main entrance.

2. Foundations: The main block has foundations of stone whereas the rear additions have concrete block foundations.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: The walls, originally constructed totally of wood, have recently been surfaced with white clapboard-like aluminum siding. All trim is painted white, with the exception of the doors and window sashes, which are painted black.

4. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: The major porch occurs on the east in front of the recessed north half of the building. It is notable for its turned wooden posts and for its decorative wooden trim between the post capitals and the cornice. The decorative brackets, pendants and arch braces are especially prominent.
5. Chimneys: The main two-story block has three brick chimneys along the north, south and east exterior walls, none of the three being expressed on the walls.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: All doors are of wooden panel construction. the front door also contains a glass panel and has a transom.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Windows on the portion of the house nearest Malden Drive are double-hung two-over-two wooden sash units, while those further from the street are six-over-six units.
7. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: The roof of the main block is a hipped roof covered with diamond-pattern clay tile of greenish-gray color. The front porch has a flat roof.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: The eaves of the hipped roof project approximately one foot beyond the walls and are free of any ornamentation. The eaves of the flat porch roof project approximately eight inches beyond the post line and are supported by large decoratively carved brackets at each pair of posts.

C. Site:

1. General setting: The front of the house faces west onto Malden Drive.
2. Outbuildings: A yellow brick garage and a log cabin are located to the east of the house.

Prepared by James Murray Howard
Project Supervisor
Historic American Buildings Survey
July 1979

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

1. Bibliography:

a. Primary and unpublished sources:

Deed Book, Kanawha County Courthouse Records.

Deed Book 37 at page 371

Deed Book 1444 at page 125.

b. Interviews:

Mrs. Grace Stone, 4200 Malden Drive, Malden, West Virginia.
(Next door neighbor to 4402 Malden Drive.) Mrs. Elsie Ferrell,
209 Commerce Drive, Malden, West Virginia. (Life-long resident
of Malden 77 years.) Miss. L. S. Cole and Miss Martha Cole, 202
Georges Drive, Malden, West Virginia. (Concerned Malden
residents and local historians.)

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) with funding from the West Virginia Department of Culture and History. The recording was completed under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, and Kenneth L. Anderson, Principal Architect of HABS, in the HABS field office in Charleston, West Virginia. Recording was carried out during the summer of 1979 by James Murray Howard (University of Illinois), Project Supervisor; Donna White, Project Historian; and Student Architects James Barrett Garrison (Carnegie-Mellon University) and Keith Edward Soto (University of Florida). The photographs were taken by Walter Smalling, Jr., Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service Photographer.

See Malden Historic District (HABS No. WV-210), sheet 8 of 9, for elevation drawing.